

From: [Carmen Assunto](#) on behalf of R6ASK@epa.gov
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Attachments: [R6 Daily News Digest 05-10-13.pdf](#)

(See attached file: R6 Daily News Digest 05-10-13.pdf)

1 - Judges Back EPA's GHG Permit Regime But Grapple With Texas Takeover, InsideEPA, 5/9/13
<http://insideepa.com/201305072433600/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/judges-back-epas-ghg-permit-regime-but-grapple-with-texas-takeover/menu-id-95.html>

A panel of federal appellate judges appears likely to back EPA's efforts to force states to create a permitting regime for greenhouse gases (GHGs), but during May 7 oral arguments the agency appeared to be on shakier ground in a separate but related case on whether it acted lawfully when it imposed a federal GHG permitting regime on Texas.

2 - NM Horse Slaughter Plant Faces More Hurdles, PublicNewsService, 5/9/13
<http://www.publicnewsservice.org/index.php?/content/article/32347-1>

ROSWELL, N.M. - New Mexico's Valley Meat Co. has another obstacle in its path to becoming a horse slaughterhouse. A Larkspur, Colo., group, Front Range Equine Rescue, has notified the Roswell company and two federal agencies - the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Agriculture - of its intent to sue for violation of the Clean Water Act.

3 - Proposed EPA standards aimed at improving the environment could fuel higher gasoline prices, Oklahoman 5/7/13

<http://newsok.com/proposed-epa-standards-aimed-at-improving-the-environment-could-fuel-higher-gasoline-prices/article/3807469>

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposed rules for cleaner-burning gasoline and more efficient car and truck engines are drawing predictable responses. The Tier 3 Vehicle Emission and Fuel Standards Program would reduce the sulfur content allowed in gasoline and require vehicle manufacturers to improve engines to reduce emissions. The EPA has described the rules as an extension of the Tier 2 standards rolled out beginning in 2000. Those rules, among other things, reduced gasoline sulfur levels to 30 parts per million, down from 300. The proposed new rules would drop that level to 10 parts per million.

4 - David Vitter, other Republicans block confirmation vote on EPA nominee, NOLA, 5/9/13
http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/05/vitter_and_other_republicans_b.html#incart_river
WASHINGTON -- Republicans on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, led by Sen. David Vitter, R-La., didn't show up Thursday (May 9) for a scheduled confirmation vote on Environmental Protection Agency administrator nominee Gina McCarthy, effectively blocking a vote.

5 - County votes to keep West a disaster area, WacoTrib, 5/9/13
http://www.wacotrib.com/news/mclennan_county/county-votes-to-keep-west-a-disaster-area/article_b8f9432c-21d5-53d0-8261-2f256606360d.html

McLennan County commissioners Tuesday voted to continue County Judge Scott Felton's disaster declaration for the county as it relates to the April 17 fire and explosion at West Fertilizer Co., something it now routinely does each week. "It allows me, as county judge, to sign off on everything applicable to any grants or state-agency funding that may come through the county," Felton said. "Some comes through the city itself, but some comes through us, and this gives me authority to act on it."

6 - Texas Dems hold water money hostage for school funding, FWTele, 5/9/13
<http://www.star-telegram.com/2013/05/10/4839891/norman-texas-dems-hold-water-money.html>
It's real simple, Gov. Rick Perry said this week. If legislators want to avoid returning for a special session in the heat and swelter of Austin this summer, they must pass \$1.8 billion in tax cuts and \$2

billion in funding for water infrastructure before their current session ends on Memorial Day, May 27. Watch out for that second part. Water funding plans have hit a wall in the House, not because members don't want to approve them but because those plans are being held hostage in a high-stakes standoff.

7 - Republicans Boycott Senate Panel Vote On McCarthy Nomination to Lead EPA, BNA, 5/10/13

http://esweb.bna.com/eslw/1245/split_display.adp?fedfid=31050445&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d8k3h3c2&split=0

Republicans on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee escalated their objections to the nomination of Gina McCarthy to be Environmental Protection Agency administrator May 9, boycotting a committee vote on her nomination. Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), the committee chairwoman, delayed the vote after Republicans refused to participate. Boxer said she will reschedule the vote when the committee can assemble a quorum of members, which will depend on the ability of Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.), who has been ill, to attend. Several EPA observers told BNA May 9 they do not think the Republican boycott will jeopardize McCarthy's confirmation. White House spokesman Jay Carney also said the Obama administration is confident McCarthy will be confirmed.

8 - Water Pollution: EPA Seeks Rehearing of Appellate Ruling On Policies for Blending, Mixing Zones, BNA, 5/10/13

http://esweb.bna.com/eslw/1245/split_display.adp?fedfid=31050472&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d8k9n1h1&split=0

The Environmental Protection Agency has asked for a rehearing by a federal appeals court of a decision in March that vacated two separate EPA actions aimed at controlling pollution from wastewater treatment plants (Iowa League of Cities v. EPA, 8th Cir., No. 11-3412, rehearing petition 5/9/2013).

9 - Boxer promises McCarthy vote ASAP in face of Republican boycott , EENEWS, 5/10/13

<http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/2013/05/09/1>

After a Republican boycott scuttled a confirmation vote this morning on U.S. EPA administrator nominee Gina McCarthy, Senate Environment and Public Works Chairwoman Barbara Boxer promised Democrats would move quickly to hold a vote -- even if it means changing committee rules.

10 - EPA Proposes Weaker Methanol Risk Estimates In Latest Draft IRIS Analysis, InsideEPA, 5/10/13

<http://insideepa.com/201305092433824/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-proposes-weaker-methanol-risk-estimates-in-latest-draft-iris-analysis/menu-id-95.html>

EPA in a new draft Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) assessment is weakening its non-cancer risk estimates for methanol from what the agency proposed in a 2011 draft, following concerns from many peer reviewers who considered the earlier draft estimates overly stringent.